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Message Text

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70
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 CCO-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USSS-00 DRC-01 /166 W
---------- 089081
R 121245Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5701
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR MA IS XJ (RATSIRAKA, D DIER)
SUBJ: EQUIVOCAL MALAGASY POSITION ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

DEPT PASS ME POSTS AS APPROPRIATE

1. FOLLOWING MALAGASY FONMIN RALSIRAKA'S OCT 3 SPEECH BEFORE UNGA, WHICH INCLUDED EXTENSIVE STRONGLY WORDED ANTI-ISRAEAL RAMARFS, IT SEEMED JUST MATTER OF TIME UNTIL MADAGASCAR BROKE DIP RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. THAT OPINION SHARED CONFIDENTIALLY BY ISRAELI EMBASSY PERSONNEL TANANARIVE. HOWEVER, IN AIRPORT INTERVIEW UPON RETURN OCT 11, FONMIN POINTED OUT MADAGASCAR NEED NOT BLINDLY FOLLOW AFR-ICAN NATIONS IN BREAKING RELATIONS. HE DID NOT DENY POSSIBILITY OF RUPTURE "LATER ON IF IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AND EFFICACIOUS". IN ANY EVENT, DECISION UP TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. SPEAKING AS MIL-ITARY MAN RATHER THAN DIPOLMAT RATSIRAKA STATED HE SEES ARABS AS STARTING OFF WAR POORLY AND HAVING FALLEN INTO ISRAELI TRAP. COMM-ENTED THAT SCARED ARAB UNITY IS NOT WORKING ON BATTLEFIELD AND ARAB ARE SEEKING TACTICAL RATHER THAN STRATEGIC VICTORY WITH SUFF-ICIENT PREPARATION. DOES NOT SEE WAR AS LASTING LONG UNLESS ARABS PULL TOGETHER. STATED ARABS ARE SUFFICIENTLY MANNED, ARMED AND WITH
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SUFFICIENT FINANCIALRESOURCES TO NEED NOTHING FROM MADAGSACR; IN

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FACT, THEY SHOULD BE AIDING MADAGASCAR.

2. EMBASSY GUESS IS THAT GOMR, WHILE PAYING LIP SERVICE TO ARAB CASUE OF REGAINING LOST TERRITORIES, WILL AWAIT FURTHER ME MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO BREAK REATIONS WITH ISRAEL. IN ANY EVENT, MATTER IS SCHEDULED TO BE DISCUSSED DURING "SUPER 3-DAY CONCONSUL OF MINISTERS" MEETING DUE TERMINATE OCT 13.

MATHERON

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Disposition Authority: willialc
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Disposition Remarks:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EQUIVOCAL MALAGASY POSITION ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL DEPT PASS ME POSTS AS APPROPRIATE
TAGS: PFOR, MA, IS, XJ, (RATSIRAKA, D DIER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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